Activities of Technology Mission on drinking water

*79. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided to set up 128 desalination plants in the country as part of the Technology Mission on Drinking Water;

(b) if so, what is the total allocations made by Government for the Technology Mission on Drinking Water;

(c) whether the above Technology Mission had decided to look after 1.5 lakh villages which have no provision of drinking water within a 1.6 km radius; and

(d) if so, whether such sites have already been identified and if so, their locations and to what extent the drinking water has been provided to those sites till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) to (d) The Central Government has decided to set up 128 desalination plants in the country as part of the Sub Mission on Desalination of Water under National Drinking Water Mission.

The total allocation for setting up 128 desalination plants in different States/UTs in the country including the cost of operation and maintenance for a period of 3 years is estimated at about Rs. 28 crores.

At the commencement of the 7th Plan as on 1-4-89, there were 1,61,722 identified problem villages to be provided with safe drinking water facilities. Out of these problem villages 24,567 were covered in 1985-86 leaving 1,37,155 problem villages to be covered when the National Drinking Water Mission was launched. As on 1-4-89, 20,866 problem villages remained to be covered with safe drinking water facilities out of which 16,671 will be covered in 1989-90 and the remaining 4195 are likely to spill over to the 8th Plan.

The sites for installation of desalination plants have already been identified and their locations are shown in the Annexure. (*See* Appendix CLI, Annexure No. 19). The installation of plants is in different stages and will be completed by 31-3-90. Desalinated water will be provided in these locations as and when the plants are actually commissioned between August, 1989 to 31st March, 1990.

Implementation of Jawahar Lal Nehru Rozgar Yojna

*80. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA :
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to give gainful and durable employment to one member of each poor family during 1989-90 under the Jawaharlal Nehru Rozgar Yojna;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry have received any representations from any quarter for increasing the number of districts to be selected under the said scheme;

(d) the criteria fixed by Government in this regard;

(e) whether Government have invited suggestions from the State Governments to select districts on the basis of the above criteria;

(f) if so, the names of the districts suggested so far;

(g) whether Government propose to give priority to the most drought affected areas in the country, *viz.*, Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur and the hilly and tribal areas for selection under this scheme and if so, what are the guidelines in this regard;

(h) the criteria to select persons(s) for the Yojna; and

(i) whether the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister had given some suggestions in this regard and if so, what are the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) to (i) Jawahar Rozgar Yojna aims to generate additional gainful employment for the unemployed and underemployed persons both men and women in the rural areas. It is estimated that under the Yojana, it will be possible to provide fuller employment opportunities to atleast one member of each family living below the poverty line who seek unskilled employment. With the resources provided for the Yojana, it will be possible to generate a little more than 900 million mandays of employment which will be 33% higher than the wage employment generated under the combined programme of National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) in 1988-89. This is a big and significant step-up and is about 1/3rd of the estimated employment generation to achieve the objective of employment guarantee. The Government of India feels that acceleration of the programme more than this speed cannot be achieved due to administrative constraints in the field.

The Yojna is being implemented in the rural areas of all the districts in the country.

Allocation from the Government of India to the States is made on the basis of the percentage of rural poor that a State/UT had of all the rural poor as brought out in the National Sample Survey of 1983-84.

Allocations of resources under the Yojana to the districts are made on the index of backwardness formulated on the basis of percentage of agricultural labourers to main workers in rural areas, percentage of rural SC/ST population to total rural population and inverse of agricultural productivity defined as the value of agriculture produce out of each unit of land for rural areas (taken on the net basis) in the weights of 20:60:20. The criteria is already weighted very heavily in favour of SC/ST dominant districts. Special allocations have also been made by the Government to desert and hill districts of U.P., Rajasthan and Gujarat in view of their backwardness and the need for more employment. In such cases, the per capita allocation for hill/desert districts was taken the highest for any district in that State limited to a minimum of Rs. 2.50 crores and a maximum of Rs. 10.00 crores. In the State of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal pradesh, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur, the criteria that has been followed is that no district should get less than double of the NREP allocations that it was usually getting. Smaller States and UTs like Kerala, Punjab, Haryana, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, Pondicherry, Goa and Tripura, the level of allocations under the Yojana had been retained atleast at the same level as the combined allocations under NREP/RLEGP in the year 1988-89 because the allocatons of these States were lower by application of the prescribed criteria.

People below the poverty line are the target group under the Yojana.

However, perference is required to to be given to SC/STs under the Yojana. 30% of the employment opportunities under the Yojana is reserved for women.

We have not received any suggestions from the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu regarding Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.

Opening of new Fair Price Shops in tribal areas

363. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open some new Fair Price Shops in the tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken to streamline the public distribution system in the tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) The States and UTs have been advised from time to time to assess the coverage of tribal areas by the Fair Price Shops, with a view to taking further steps to cover the uncovered, undercovered areas. They have also been advised that in areas which cannot be covered by static Fair Price Shops, mobile vans may be introduced. It was also suggested that sales centres could be opened to provide essential commodities at fixed prices at the weekly haats in tribal areas.

The Central Government is also operating a Plan Scheme to provide financial assistance to States/UTs for purchase of mobile vans for supply of essential commodities in tribal, remote, far-flung, desert areas, etc

The Government has launched a scheme for supply of concessional foodgrains to the people in ITDP areas at specially subsidised rates (lower than PDS rates), in November, 1985. The total population including non-tribals living in ITDP areas and the entire population of six tribal majority States/UTs namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Miz oram, Nagaland, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep are covered under the scheme.

364. [*Transferred to the 26th July*, 1989].

Promotion policy for ex-cadre officers and staff

365. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the promotion policy for ex-cadre officers like Extension Officer, Farm Radio Officer and non-gazetted staff like Field Reporters, Farm Radio Reporters; and

(b) by when upgradation of instrumentalists is likely to take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) The posts of Extension Officer, Farm Radio Officer and non-gazetted staff like Field Reporters and Farm Radio Reporters are not ex-cadre posts.

(b) Upgradation of instrumentalists is a continuous process. If any instrumentalist wants to be upgraded he can apply anytime to the Station Director of the Station under whose jurisdiction he/she resides. The recordings of such applicants are placed before the Music Audition Board which decides the grade of the artist after listening and assessing the performance of the artist.